

Member of Congress or an Inspector General;

(2) The Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard determines that the case is unusually complex or otherwise requires the assistance of a law specialist to ensure proper presentation of the legal issues in the case; and

(3) The Coast Guard member is not represented by outside counsel chosen by the member.

(d) If the Board elects to hold an administrative hearing, the Board must ensure that the Coast Guard member may examine witnesses through deposition, serve interrogatories, and request the production of evidence, including evidence in the Inspector General investigatory record but not included in the report released to the member.

(e) If the Board determines that a personnel action was taken in reprisal for a Coast Guard member making or preparing to make a lawful communication to a Member of Congress or an Inspector General, the Board may forward its recommendation to the Secretary for the institution of appropriate administrative or disciplinary action against the individual or individuals found to have taken reprisal, and direct any appropriate correction of the member's records.

(f) The Board shall notify the Inspector General of the Board's decision concerning an application for the correction of military records of a Coast Guard member who alleged reprisal for making or preparing to make a lawful communication to a Member of Congress or an Inspector General, and of any recommendation to the Secretary for appropriate administrative or disciplinary action against the individual or individuals found to have taken reprisal.

(g) When reprisal is found, the Secretary shall ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken.

#### **§53.11 Procedures.**

(a) Any member of the Coast Guard, who reasonably believes a personnel action (including the withholding of an action) was taken or threatened in reprisal for making or preparing to make a lawful communication to a Member of Congress or an Inspector General, may file a complaint with the DOT In-

spector General Hotline under this part. Such a complaint may be filed by telephone, or by letter addressed to the Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General, Hotline Center, P.O. Box 23178, Washington, D.C. 20026-0178. Telephone Numbers: 1-800-424-9071, FTS 8-366-1461. The commercial number is (202) 366-1461.

(b) The complaint should include the name, address, and telephone number of the complainant; the name and location of the activity where the alleged violation occurred; the personnel action taken, or threatened, that is alleged to be motivated by reprisal; the individual(s) believed to be responsible for the personnel action; the date when the alleged reprisal occurred; and any information that suggests or evidences a connection between the communication and reprisal. The complaint should also include a description of the communication to a Member of Congress or an Inspector General including a copy of any written communication and a brief summary of any oral communication showing date of communication, subject matter, and the name of the person or official to whom the communication was made.

(c) A member of the Coast Guard who is alleging reprisal for making or preparing to make a lawful communication to a Member of Congress or an Inspector General, may submit an application for the correction of military records to the Board, in accordance with regulations governing the Board. See 33 CFR part 52.

(d) An application submitted under paragraph (c) of this section shall be considered in accordance with regulations governing the Board. See 33 CFR part 52.

### **PART 54—ALLOTMENTS FROM ACTIVE DUTY PAY FOR CERTAIN SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS**

Sec.

54.01 Purpose.

54.03 Persons authorized to give notices.

54.05 Form and contents of notice.

54.07 Service of notice upon designated Coast Guard official.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 665(c).

SOURCE: CGD 82-109, 48 FR 4285, Jan. 31, 1983, unless otherwise noted.